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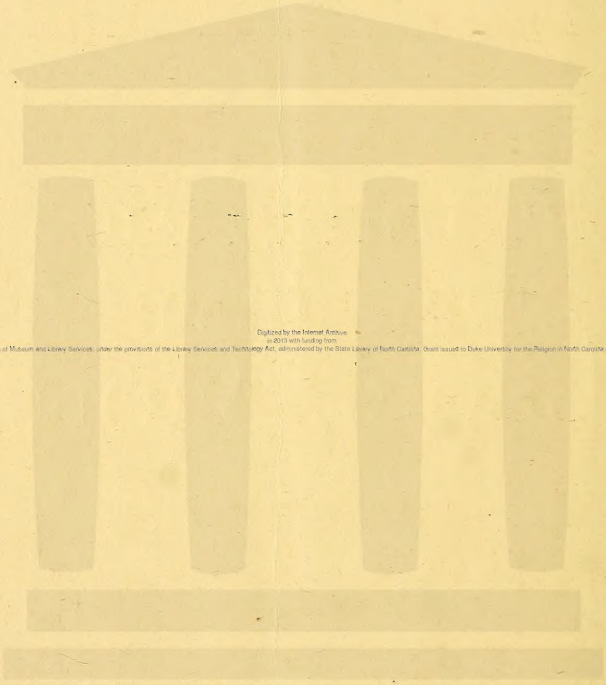
PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.



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MINUTES

—OF THE—

29th Annual Session.

—OF THE—

PRIMITIVE BAPTIST Association,

——CONVENED WITH——

Roudd Mountain Church,

WILKES COUNTY, N. C.

Oct. 22 and 23, 1897.

ELDER ELI SEBASTIAN, MODERATOR.
GEO. W. MILES, CLERK.

The next session will meet with Rachel Church, six miles South of Traphill, N. C., on Friday before the fourth Sunday in October, 1898.

PROCEEDINGS

—OF THE—

PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

FRIDAY, October 22nd, 1897

Met pursuant to adjournment of last year.

Introductory sermon delivered by Elder J. O. Wood; text, St. John 14: 6: "I am the way, the truth, and the life" &c.

1st. After a short intermission the delegates assembled in the church and were called to order by singing and prayer by Eld. Eli Sebastian.

2nd. Called for Associational letters, eleven handed in and read.

3rd. Invited newly constituted churches to seats with us, when Cane Creek church presented a letter which was read and the hand of fellowship extended to her delegates.

4th. Appointed Elds. Isom Edwards and A. McKnight, from the Little River association and Eld. M. E. Simcox from Mt Union, tellers, who reported Eld. Eli Sebastian, moderator and Geo. W. Miles, clerk.

5th. On motion, invited correspondents of our faith and order: Eld. M. E. Simcox from Mt. Union Association; Elds. A. J. Wagoner, A. McKnight, Isom Edwards and S. F. Brown from Little River; and Bro. J. M. Holloway from Blue Ridge accepted seats.

6th. On motion, invited transients of our faith and order Eld J. N. Brooks from Bethel church, and J. R. Brown from New River association received the hand of friendship and accepted seats.

7th. On motion, authorized the Moderator to make all temporary appointments during this session.

8th. Appointed Thos. Billings, Jasper Felts and W.

A. Gentry with delegates of this church to arrange preaching, who reported for to-morrow 1st, A. J. Wagoner, 2nd, M. E. Simcox, 3rd, Isom Edwards.

9th. Appointed B. Woodruff, J. T. Holbrook, T. P Hanks, W. F. Gregory, and J. M. Owens, committee of arrangements: invited Moderator, Clerk, and correspondents to sit with them.

10th. Appointed J. M. Herrald, Abner Caudill, and W. M. Johnson committee on Finance.

11th. Appointed J. H. Johnson, Ruffin Wilmoth and H. A. Hanks, committee on Sabbath Schools.

12th A motion was made to discontinue Temperance committee, after remarks by J. H. Johnson, A. Mc Knight, and Isom Edwards opposing the motion, and B. Woodruff, A. Caudill, W. F. Gregory and J. O. Wood favoring it, the committee was dispensed with.

13th. On Resolutions, T. R. Cockerham, A Felts, and Wm. Harrald.

14th. Appointed J. H. Johnson to write a corresponding letter to the Mt Union association, G. W. Miles to Little River and E. A. Waddell to the Blue Ridge and have them ready for inspection to-marrow.

15th, On motion, we retain W. F. Gregory, F. M. Walker, and J M. Brown, committee on Obituaries for the ensuing year; and appointed J. H, Johnson a member of said committee.

16th. On motion, adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Prayer by J. R. Brown,

Benediction by Moderator.

SATURDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 23, 1897.

Met pursuant to adjournment of yesterday, and was called to order by singing prayer by A. McKnight,

1st. Called roll of delegates and marked absentees.

2nd. Clerk read Constitution, Rules of Decorum and Articles of Faith.

3rd. On motion, Committee of Arrangements made their report and were discharged.

4th. On motion, agreed to take up items as they appear on Bill of Arrangements.

5th. Extended an invitation to transients and visitors

of our faith and order; W. S. Edwards, from the Elkin Association, accepted a seat with us.

6th Finance committee reported, received from the churches $11.10. Report received and committee discharged.

7th. Called on correspondents and visitors to report: J. P, Cockerham, E. T. Bose, Eli Sebastian, J. H. Johnson and F. W. Norman visited Little River association; J. P. Cocherham visited Mt. Union; Eli Sebastian and A Caudill visited Blue Ridge and were kindly receivod by those bodies. Report received and brethern discharged.

8th. Called on the brethern who were appointed to write corresponding letters to report, who reported and were discharged.

9th. Appointed W. F. Gregory, J. O. Wood, E. A. Waddell, A. Caudill and J. N. Brooks as correspondents to Mt. Union Association; J. H. Johnson, W.F.Gregory, J. W. Brooks, W. J. Felts, A. Absher, T. P. Hanks, Morgan Lyon, J. N. Brooks, J. O. Wood. N. Waddell, J. T. Holbrook, F. M. Brooks, L. L. Wood, T. R. Cockerham and D. Wood to the Little River Assbciation; L. L. Wood, E. A Waddell, Morgan Lyon and Eli Sebastian to the Blue Ridge Association.

10th. Called on Committee of Sabbath Schools to report, who reported, viz:

We your committee on Sabbath Schools beg leave to submit the following: We believe Christ advocated and taught Sabbath schools, and we being under a command to search the scriptures and to keep the Sabbath holy, know no better way to comply with these commands than in Sabbath school work; and advise our churches (those who have not) to organize Sabbath schools and strive to make them evergreen.

Respectfullly submitted,
J. H. JOHNSON. Ch'm Com.

Report received and brethren discharged.

11th. Called on Committee on Ministry to report, who reported for to-morrow: 1st, A. J. Wagoner, 2nd, Isom Edwards, 3rd. A. McKnight. Report received and committee discharged.

12th. Committee on Resolutions reported, viz:

1st. Resolved: That we urge our church members to be more prompt in atttending to their respective church meetings.

2nd. That we as Primitive Baptists look more after the poor, infirm.

widows and orphans in our churches and communities.

3rd. That we advise our members to perpetuate feet washing.

4th. That we return our thanks to the brethren sisters and friends of this vicinity for their hospitality to us during this session.

Respectfully submitted.

T. R. COCKERHAM, Ch'm Com.

Report received and Committee discharged.

13th. Appointed Grorge W. Miles to write a Circular Letter relative to the principles of the Baptist as set forth by the scriptures and have the same ready for inspection at our next session.

14 Committee on obituaries reported. Report recelved and committee discharged.

15th. Appointed J. H. Johnson to write an obituary of Sarah Douglass dec'd and G, W. Miles to write one of Wm Royal, dec'd, and ordered same spread upon these minutes.

16th. Appointed the following Union meetings viz: At Round Hill church, 2nd Saturday in August, 1898. Elds. J. M. Owens, J. O. Wood, W F. Gregory and Wm. Miles to attend. At Oak Level church 3rd Saturday in August, 1898 Elds. Eli Sebastian and J. O Wood to attend. At Bethany church, 4th Saturday in July, 1898. Elds. Wm. Wiles and B. Woodruff to attend. At Roaring River church, 4th Saturday in August, 1898. Elds. Eli Sebastian, Wm, Wiles, W. F. Gregory and J. O Wood to attend.

17th. Ordered Articles of Faith spread upon these minutes verbatim et literatim as they appeared prior to 1893, except we retain the words feet-washing in article seven.

18th. Appointed our next Association to convene with Rachel church, six miles south of Traphill, N. C., on Friday before the fourth Lords day in October, 1898. J. W. Walker to preach the introductory sermon, Eli Sebastian alternate.

19th. Appointed the clerk treasurer, and allowed him the residue of thecontribution, after the expenses of printing the minutes are defrayed for his services and have 400 copies printed and distributed.

20th. On motion adjourned to time and place of our next Association.

ELD. ELI SEBASTIAN, Moderator.

GEORGE W. MILES, Clerk.

SABBATH, OCT. 24, 1897.

Services opened by M. E. Simcox.

Song:—"Amazing Grace how sweet the sound," etc.

1st sermon by A. J. Wagoner. Text, St. John 6:35, "I am the bread of life."

2nd sermon by Isom Edwards. Text, St. John 10:9. "I am the door" etc.

3rd sermon by A. McKnight, Text, Acts 10:44, "While Peter yet spake," etc.

At the close of the services, a score or more of persons gave their hands soliciting the prayers of the Saints.

Thus closed one of the most pleasant sessions of this association. God bless the Primitive association. Amen.

CLERK.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1st. We believe In one only true and living God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and these three are one.

2nd. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament are the Word of God, and the only rule of Faith and Practice.

3rd. We believe in the doctrine of Election by Grace.

4th. We believe in the doctrine of Original Sin, and in man's impotency to recover himshlf from the fallen state he is in by nature, by his own free will or ability.

5th. We believe that sinners are called, converted, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit, and that all who are thus regenerated and born again by the Spirit of God, shall never fall finally away.

6th. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God, only by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ.

7th. We believe that Baptism, the Lord's Supper and Feetwashing are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only subjects of those ordiances, and we believe the only true mode of baptism is by immersion.

8th. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general Judgement, and that the joys of the righteous. and the punishment of the wicknd will be eternal.

9th. We believe that no minister has a right to administer the ordinance of the Gospel, except such as are regularly called, and come under the inposition of hands by the Presbytery.

OBITUARIES.

Elien Wood was born Dec. 14th, 1861, and died April 13th, 1897. She joined the church at Rock Creek, Oct. 14th. 1884, but moved her membership to Bethany church, Oct. 15th, 1894, where she remained uatii her death.

She lived a christian life and died in the faith.

W. F. GREGORY, Ch'm, Committee.

H. V. Owens was born May 7th, 1861, and died Jan. 10th, 1897. He was married to Sarah Porter Apr. 6th, 1884, there was born unto them three chtldren all of whom are yet living. He joined Bethany church Aug. 27th, 1894, where his membership remained until his death.

Then let us hasten to the day
Which shall our flesh restore,
When death shall all be done away,
And christians part no more.

W. F. GREGORY, Ch'm. Committee..

Martha J. Holloway was born July, 3rd, 1837, died Aug. 6th, 1897. She was married to Daniel H. Holloway in 1856. There was born unto them 8 children, five of whom claim a hope in Christ.

She professed faith in Christ in 1892, and joined Roaring River church, Apr., 1897. but owing to her delicate health baptism was defered until Aug. 3rd, 1897; by this time she was extremely feeble but manifested a strong desire to be baptised before the final hour should come. On Aug. 3rd, 1897 she was carried to the water and immersed by Eld. Wm. Miles. She tarried at the water's edge to see the baptism of her husband. After three more days of suffering the pendulum of life stood still.

Her friends around her bed did stand,
And sigh to see her go;
A breach in the family band
Her parting would make you know.

At length her spirit got release,
And left her cumbrous clay;
Up to the realms of endless peace
It quickly soared away.

W. F. GREGORY, Chairman Committee.

Elisabeth Felts (whose maiden name was Elisabeth Norman) was born Nov. 12th, 1815 and departed this life Oct, 25th, 1896.

She professed faith in a crucified Redeemer in early life and joined the Baptist church at Union on Saturday before the 1st Sabbath in June, 1833.

She moved her membership to Round Mountain church and was

an excellent and faithful member of this church until she was called to a world beyond. She raised ten children, one is gone to the Spirit world, while nine on earth remain—three are Deacons of the Baptist church. She lived a pious life before her many friends, but died an easysudden death. While enjoying a farwell handshake at her church, she came to Eld. Keys and grasping his hand said "God bless you. My soul is happy" and died instantaneously.

At the church two months before she died,
The Savior's command exemplified,
With a heart of love and soul so meek
Did pour the water and wash the feet.

Her soul was filled with the Holy Ghost
But with this church she will no more meet,
She's crossed the river and joined the host
To remain with Christ eternally.

W. F. GREGORY, Ch'm Com,

Austin Gentry, son of Atha and Rachel Gentry, was born on Big Elkin (then Wilkes county butnow Surry county N. C.) July 2nd, 1827, and died Nov. 29th, 1896.

On Sept. 17th, 1847, he was married to Mahalia Crouse, daughter of John and Nancy Crouse, unto them were born four children all of whom are now living and professors of religion.

In Nov. 1848, he made a profession of religion and soon afterwaads joined Cool Spring Baptist church and was baptised by Eld, Colby Sparks on second Sunday in Nov. 1848.

He moved his membership to White Oak church and was Clerk of this church for many years, was one of the founders of the Primitive Baptist Association and was a leader in the formation and building of Friendship church, of which he was a faithful member up to the time of his death.

His funeral was preached by Eld. B. Woodruff; and his friends, after taking a farewell look, laid his body to rest at Friendship church.

He leaves a wife, four children, twenty Grand and two Great Grand-children and many friends to mourn their loss.

Farewell dear veteran of the cross,
You're free from sorrow and pain;
When the River of Death is crossed,
We'll see your dear face again,

Wrote by Miss Coetta Gentry in loving rememberance of her Grand-Papa.

P. S. Miss Coetta's name is used above by request of the relatives of the deceased—Clerk.

William Royal was born March 6th, 1812, and died March 5th, 1896. He was married to Sarah Sanders in the year 1839. There were born unto them twelve children eight of them are living and members of the church. He joined the church at Pine Fork about the year 1847 and afterwards moved his membership to Woodruff church and from this church he moved to Liberty Knob church soon

after its constitution, where he remained until his death. He took much pleasure in filling his seat at church and while the word was being preached, tears would oftimes course their way down his cheek.

His last days were days of suffering and pain, yet borne with great fortitude. His remains were laid to rest in the family grave yard where it will sleep in quietude until the great trump shall sound,

Farewell dear children here below.
My Jesus calls and I must go.
Forewell my aged companion too;
The summons soon will come for you.

Lift up your eyes above the cloud,
Your bodies soon must wear the shroud;
Far me, lament not, weep nor cry,
Now to you all a last good bye.

Affectionately,
G. W. Miles, Appointee.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	POST OFFICES.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	Saturdays.	By Baptism.	By Letter.	By Application	Restored.	Dismissed.	Excluded.	Deceased.	Total Number.	Contribution.
Bethany	Eli Sebastian	Round M't'n, N. C.	J. M. Owens, J. O., L. L. & B. Wood	4	7	3	1	1	1	2	2	60	$ 85
Cane Creek	Gregory & Wood	Dehart, "	W M Johnson, W J Felts. A Absher, W J Holbrook.	3	4	8						20	95
Elkin Valley	Gregory & Woodruff	Elkin, "	C A Cooper, B Woodruff,	4					1			33	65
Friendship	B. Woodruff	Rusk, "	W A Gentry, Winfield Chapel. F Pardew,	2		1				1		18	80
Lib'ty Knob	Wm. Miles	Cherry Lane, "	G W Miles and J W Brooks,	3	4				1			38	65
Oak Level	Eli Sebastian	Benham, "	C Waddell, J P Cockerham, C Money,	3	6	1			1			27	55
Round Hill	Wm. Miles	Dockery, "	N Waddell, T P Hanks, M Lyon	2	14	1			2		2	78	1 00
Round M't'n	Gregory, Wood and J. C, Elledge	Round M't'n, "	W. F. Gregory. A Caudill, A Felts, J N Felts, E A Waddell,	1	8	7			8	2	3	113	1 35
Rachel	Sebastian and Wood	Lomax, "	John Crabb, Ruffin Wilmoth, W H Cothren. E T Bose, Thos. Billings,	1	25	1		1	3	1		77	1 15
Roaring Ri'r	Wm. Miles	Joynes, "	J T Holbrook, Z C Spicer. T R Cockerham, F M Brooks, M G McBride,	4	17			1	1	1	1	113	1 25
White Oak	A. McKnight	Parks, "	J H Johnson and H A Hanks	4								47	1 00
Zion	J. M. Owens	Viands, "	W M, J M and J P Herrald, Harden Brown and Eli Sebastian,	4					3			52	90
			TOTAL.....		85	22	1	3	21	6	9	676	11 10